

Applicant: Bertram SUGG  
Docket No. R.306628  
Preliminary Amdt.

**NEW ABSTRACT:**

Please replace the original abstract with the following new abstract:

**Abstract of the Disclosure**

A piezoelectric actuator, for example for actuating a mechanical component, has a multilayered structure of piezoelectric layers and, in a piezoelectrically active region, can be acted on with an electrical voltage by means of internal electrodes that are situated between the layers. The layer structure of the piezoelectric actuator includes inactive regions; at least the top part or bottom part, as an inactive region without internal electrodes, is comprised of a material whose dielectric constant is less than the dielectric constant of the active region.